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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/531,913	04/19/2005	Kazuo Yoneyama	050220	3810
23850	7590	10/21/2005	EXAMINER	
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP			IMAS, VLADIMIR	
1725 K STREET, NW			ART UNIT	
SUITE 1000			PAPER NUMBER	
WASHINGTON, DC 20006			2839	

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/531,913

Applicant(s)

YONEYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Vladimir Imas

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.
2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because:  
  
the abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph;  
  
numerals used for recited limitations should be in parenthesis, see MPEP § 608.01(m).

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:  
  
Lines 13 and 16, recited "in accordance" should be removed. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

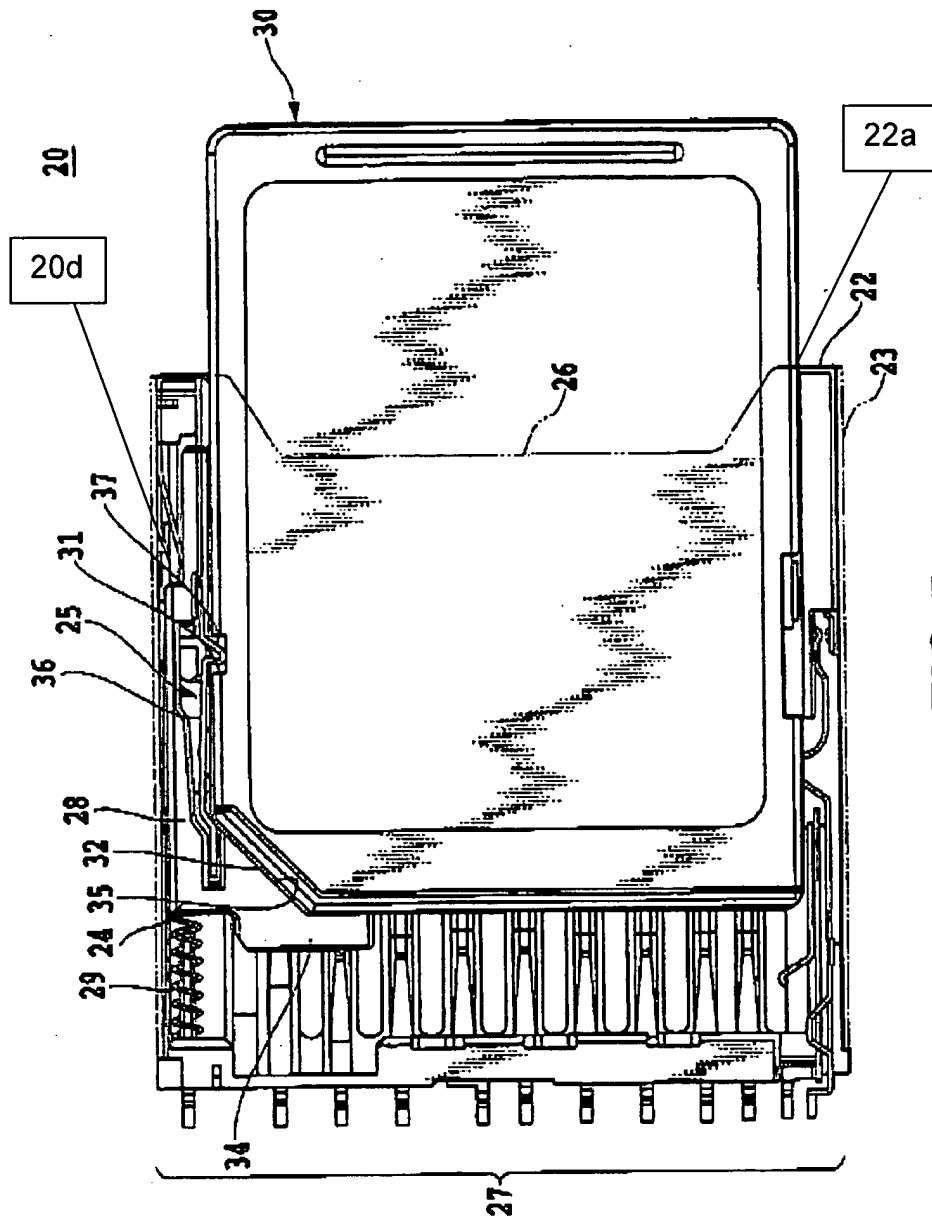
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kikuchi et al. (US 2003/0096521).

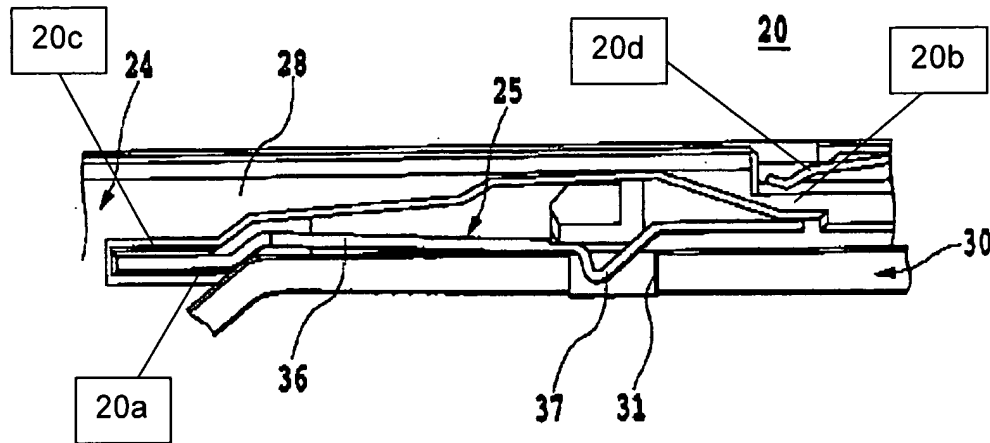
Regarding Claim 1, Kikuchi et al. discloses a card connector 20 Fig. 6-8 for

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receiving a card 30 having an engagement recess 31 on at least one side face,



**FIG. 7**



**FIG. 8**

comprising: a base 22 having a slot 22a into which the card can be inserted; a slider 24 provided at a position in the base to be abutable on the card; spring 29 forcing the slider in a discharging direction of the card; and a lock spring 36 comprising a plate spring having a tip end 37 engageable with the engagement recess of the card and a base end 20c mounted on the slider, the tip end displaceable in a direction away from the card, wherein said slider is pushed by the inserted card and thereby is moved in accordance with the card from a discharging position to a card insertion position against an urging force of the spring while, upon discharge of the card, the slider is moved in accordance with the card by the urging force of said spring from the card insertion position to a card pop-out preventing position beyond the card discharging position, and said base is provided with a first rib 20a which abuts on the tip end of the lock spring to

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prevent the tip end from being displaced when the slider is positioned at the card pop-out preventing position.

Regarding Claim 2, Kikuchi et al. discloses the card connector according to claim 1, wherein said base is provided with a second rib 20b which abuts on said the tip end of the lock spring to prevent the tip end from being displaced when said slider is positioned at the card insertion position.

Regarding Claim 3, Kikuchi et al. discloses the card connector according to claim 1, wherein said base is provided with an elastic member 20d which abuts on a tip end of said slider to return the slider from the card pop-out preventing position to the card discharging position when the slider is positioned at the card pop-out preventing position.

Regarding Claim 4, Nishimura discloses the card connector according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said tip end of the lock spring can be elastically deformed so as to disengage from said engagement recess of the card when it abuts on at least said first rib.

### ***Conclusion***


6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vladimir Imas whose telephone number is 571-272-8288. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T. Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

✓  
Examiner  
Vladimir Imas  
10/17/05

  
**TULSIDAS C. PATEL**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**